

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
February 3, 2021
Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Bill Anslow, Albany County
Susan Barden, City of Saratoga Springs
Mark Castiglione, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Donald Csaposs, Town of Guilderland
Ross Farrell, Capital District Transportation Authority
Steve Feeney, Schenectady County
Michael Franchini, Capital District Transportation Committee, Secretary
Stephen Iachetta, Albany County Airport Authority, Chair
Andrew Kohout, Village of Scotia
Elizabeth Kormos, Village of Ballston Spa
Andrew Kreshik, City of Troy
Robert Leslie, Town of Bethlehem
Sean Maguire, Town of Colonie
Randy Milano, City of Albany
Robert Rice, NYS Department of Transportation - Region I
Laura Robertson, Town of Niskayuna
John Scavo, Town of Clifton Park
Mike Valentine, Saratoga County
Tony Vasil, Albany Port District Commission
Ketura Vics, City of Rensselaer
Tim Wainwright, NYS Thruway Authority
Chris Wallin, City of Schenectady
Adam Yagelski, Town of East Greenbush

STAFF AND OTHERS ATTENDING

Christian Bauer, Capital District Transportation Committee
Jacob Beeman, Capital District Transportation Committee
Michael Burns, Town of Glenville
Jen Ceponis, Capital District Transportation Committee
Joe Cimino, CHA Consulting
Christopher Desany, Capital District Transportation Authority
Kristin Diotte, City of Schenectady
Todd Fabozzi, Capital District Regional Planning Commission
Brian Healey, CHA Consulting
Teresa LaSalle, Capital District Transportation Committee
Addyson Lyons, Greenman Pederson
Fred Mastroianni, Greenman Pederson
Sandy Misiewicz, Capital District Transportation Committee

Julianne Okun, Village of Colonie
Glenn Posca, Capital District Transportation Committee
Rima Shamieh, Capital District Transportation Committee
Melissa Shanley, Capital District Transportation Authority
Jeremy Smith, Capital District Transportation Authority
Steven Strichman, City of Troy
Andrew Tracy, Capital District Transportation Committee
Carrie Ward, Capital District Transportation Committee

INTRODUCTION

Steve Iachetta opened the videoconference meeting at approximately 9:35 AM.

VISITORS' ISSUES

There were no visitors' issues.

ADMINISTRATION

Previous Meeting Minutes – January 6, 2020

There were no comments or suggested revisions to the January 6, 2020 draft meeting minutes. Sean Maguire motioned to approve the January 6, 2020 minutes, Steve Feeney seconded, and members approved the motion.

PRESENTATION – CDTA's River Corridor BRT Construction

Jeremy Smith noted that CDTA has completed the majority of construction and service began in November 2020. The corridor is 15-16 miles between Waterford and the Albany County Rail Trail in the City of Albany, with branches to downtown Cohoes and to Delaware Avenue in the City of Albany. The project involved thirteen right of way acquisitions. There is a park and ride lot at the rail trail, and there will be another near Route 378 in Menands. CDTA undertook construction at 58 sites. Amenities include heated sidewalks, benches and lean rails at the shelters, bike racks and garbage cans. Pilot amenities include a green shelter at 4th and Congress in Troy with a solar wall, and some solar compactor trash cans. Jeremy walked through pictures showing progress throughout construction. The project included expansion of the garage in Troy, primarily for bus storage and the maintenance and repair area. All of the signals along the corridor include transit signal priority infrastructure.

ACTION ITEMS

FISCAL CONSTRAINT DISCUSSION - TIP SUMMARY TABLE 4

Mike Franchini reviewed the handout for information purposes, and noted that there haven't been significant changes since the last meeting. Year 4 is under-programmed because it's in the next TIP, and the amount of under-programming increased a small amount since the last meeting.

2019-24 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

R341, 1528.88, I-90 Exit 10.5 (at Kraft Road) to NYS Thruway: Pavement Corrective Maintenance **R342, 1528.87, I-90 Hudson River to Exit 10.5 (at Kraft Road): Pavement Corrective Maintenance**

Bob Rice noted that the cost has increased by 0.900M and NYSDOT is proposing to offset the increase by moving R342 from FFY 2022 to FFY 2023. The extents of both projects will change from Exit 10.5 to Exit 10. Steve Feeney motioned to approve the amendments as presented, Andrew Kreshik seconded, and members approved the motion.

FINAL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN UPDATE AND APPROVAL

Jen noted that staff added more description to explain what we mean by equity. Other changes were very minor. Sean Maguire motioned to approve the final Public Participation Plan as presented, Mark Castiglione seconded, and members approved the Public Participation Plan.

2021-2022 LINKAGE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Mike noted that we received four proposals, one each from the cities of Albany, Rensselaer, and Troy, and a joint proposal from the Towns of East Greenbush and North Greenbush. Staff ensured that all program requirements were met in each proposal. Three projects can be funded. The selection committee met and agreed that the East Greenbush and North Greenbush proposal was a priority, and that the City of Troy's proposal was strong. The City of Albany's proposal is a bit stronger than Rensselaer's, however the City of Albany has received funding for numerous Linkage projects recently and we haven't worked with the City of Rensselaer in about twenty years. Therefore, the selection committee is requesting the Planning Committee decide whether the City of Albany or Rensselaer proposal should be funded. Mark Castiglione motioned to fund the presented Option 2 to fund the East Greenbush, Troy, and Rensselaer proposals, Mike Valentine seconded, and members approved funding for the East Greenbush, Troy, and Rensselaer Linkage Program proposals.

2020-22 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) AMENDMENTS

2021-22 Budget Carryovers

Task 2.30.2 Highway Condition Inventory City of Albany

Task 4.21 Freight

Task 4.30 Smart Communities

Task 6.13 Transit Planning

Mike Franchini noted that the UPWP is a 2-year document. The second year of the current UPWP starts in April and will require amendments. Due to the pandemic, some studies have been delayed or slowed down. Mike proposed carrying over the remaining funding for those studies into the second year, and summarized additional changes as follows. The City of Albany increased the scope and budget for the highway condition inventory, with increased funding from the City. The planned study for the Freight Planning study in Task 4.21 is no longer necessary. Chris Bauer discussed a survey seeking input into a new freight study scope. The Smart Communities task study did not receive member interest. Staff is proposing to develop a Capital Region Smart Communities Roadmap & Best Practices Guide instead. CDTA requested an increase in the scope and budget for the Bus Lane Feasibility Study, for which CDTA will provide the additional funding. Bob Rice motioned to approve the UPWP Amendments as presented, Steve Iachetta seconded, and members approved the UPWP Amendments.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

TIP APPLICATION AND EVALUATION UPDATE

Sandy Misiewicz summarized the staff efforts to update the process, including reviewing web based application options and questions to include in the application, reviewing and updating the merit evaluation scoresheet for clarity and consistency, and researching a data management system for project evaluations. Staff plans to provide suggested changes to the merit evaluations scoresheet at the April meeting.

CDTC PROJECT DELIVERY UPDATE

Jacob Beeman noted that the City of Rensselaer's PSAP received construction authorization in December. The PS&E for Clifton Park's PSAP was submitted in January. Steve Feeney presented about the Schenectady County project S244 (Highbridge Road and East Campbell Road: Hot In-Place Recycling & Sidewalk Reconstruction/Extension). The project is now 95% complete. NYSDOT coordinated for the pedestrian signals crossing over I-890. They weren't able to rehabilitate all of the segments as expected, however the sidewalk was extended from Highbridge Pizza to Kings Road, and on East Campbell in the vicinity of the elementary school, where there also will be an RRFB.

NYSDOT PROJECT DELIVERY SCHEDULE

Bob Rice showed a preview of the information on local projects that NYSDOT Region 1 is sharing within New York State (Table 1). He noted that this table is a draft. If any sponsors are uncomfortable with the schedule shown, please let Bob's team know. He also shared an updated list of NYSDOT projects for the next fiscal year (Table 2).

Table 1: LOCAL Projects within CDTC – SFY 21/22

PIN	Project Title	Current Letting	Construction Amount	Tip Number
176117	BRIDGE NY CULVERT JAMES ST. OVER EAGLES NEST CREEK, COHOES	05/14/2021	730,000	A606
176092	PSAP CITY OF ALBANY PEDESTRIAN ENHANCEMENTS	5/28/2021	1,101,000	A590
176045	WEST OLD STATE RD. SIDEWALKS, TOWN OF GUILDERLAND	10/1/2021	203,000	A581
176079	TAP/CMAQ – GUILDERLAND HAMLET SIDEWALK CONNECTION	6/18/2021	608,000	A586
176119	BRIDGE NY CAMPBELL AVE OVER WYNANTS KILL BRIDGE REHAB, TROY	07/15/2021	2,843,000	R328
176110	BRIDGE NY CULVERT MORNER RD OVER MILL CREEK, EAST GREENBUSH	12/15/2021	327,000	R346
176114	BRIDGE NY CULVERT PARTITION ST OVER QUACKENDERRY CRK, RENS	07/14/2021	700,000	R348
176111	BRIDGE NY CULVERT MANNIX RD OVER MILL CREEK, EAST GREENBUSH	12/15/2021	348,000	R347
176034	SAND LAKE HAMLETS SIDEWALK ENHANCEMENTS, TOWN OF SAND LAKE	08/25/2021	700,000	R310
176042	BROADWAY MILL AND FILL, WEAVER ST. TO FOURTH ST., SCHENECTADY	07/30/2021	972,000	S242
176043	MOHAWK-HUDSON BIKE-HIKE TRAIL REHAB, ROTTERDAM	09/29/2021	176,000	S243
176062	ROSA RD, WENDELL AVE, NOTT ST. INTERSECTIONS, CITY OF SCHENE	08/03/2021	295,000	S245
176057	BRANDYWINE AVENUE SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS, CITY OF SCHENECTADY	06/04/2021	1,008,000	S247
176118	BRIDGE NY FRANCIS AVE OVER I-890 BRIDGE REHAB	09/15/2021	2,666,000	S258
176182	TAP/CMAQ NEW BIKE PED ACCESS RT. 5S, ROTTERDAM	12/15/2021	2,245,000	S267
176082	TAP/CMAQ – MOE RD MULTI-USE PATH GAP CLOSURE, CLIFTON PARK	11/30/2021	789,000	SA306
176060	NOTT ST. SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS, CITY OF SCHENECTADY, SCHENECTADY COUNTY	4/30/2021	1,353,000	S249

Table 2: NYSDOT Projects within CDTC – SFY 21/22

PIN	Project Title	Current Letting	Construction Amount	Project Manager	Tip Number
100716	BIN 1038070 RT. 144 OVER HANNACROIS CREEK, COEYMANS	10/21/2021	2,800,000	JEFFREY MCGURN	A576
152888	I-90 PAVEMENT CORRECTIVE MAINTENANCE EXIT 10 TO THRUWAY	4/22/2021	7,200,000	COREY BARRINGER	R341
108979	RT. 4/I-90 INTERSECTION SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS	4/22/2021	5,100,000	KELLEY KIRCHER	R340
111141	ROUTE 20 OVER SCHOHARIE CREEK, BRIDGE REHABILITATION, BIN 1054370	11/21/2021	2,100,000	DYLAN WILLSEY	S260
152539	I-890 BRIDGES OVER ERIE BLVD. ELEMENT SPECIFIC REPAIRS	8/19/2021	14,000,000	JEFFREY MCGURN	S264
181126	INTERSTATE OVERHEAD SIGN STRUCTURE REPLACEMENT, SFY 21	7/22/2021	3,107,000	KENNETH DAVIS	RG142

STATUS OF CDTC PLANNING ACTIVITIES

Ballston Spa Bike/Ped Master Plan

Jacob Beeman noted that the team held its kickoff meeting in January. The consultant team is working on initial data collection and the first advisory committee meeting is anticipated in February.

Menands Land Use Regulations Update

The selection committee selected the proposal submitted by The Chazen Companies and the project is expected to launch next month.

Scotia Downtown Connections Plan

Andrew Tracy said the contract is fully executed and the project is getting underway.

CDTC/CDRPC Technical Assistance Program Projects

Sandy Misiewicz noted that the Clifton Park project is complete, and the East Greenbush Gilligan Road project will be presented to the Town Board next week. Projects in Troy and the Town of Colonie kicked off in January. Staff is beginning to coordinate with Ballston Spa and Glenville on the final two projects.

Virtual New Visions training(s) for Town Boards or Planning and Zoning Boards

Staff is available to provide trainings on New Visions. The website's [New Visions](#) page includes a form to request Training for Local Governments. In addition, CDTC holds a monthly New Visions virtual learning series, for which AICP credits are available. The next one is on aging and livability with AARP on February 13.

STATUS OF PLANNING ACTIVITIES

CDRPC

Mark Castiglione announced that the new Clean Energy Communities program has been launched. CDRPC is still distributing CARES Act funding. The Census is correcting inconsistencies in the data and expects to release initial numbers this spring. CDRPC is developing a tool to monitor economic recovery from the pandemic, and continues to update the [Capital Region Indicators](#) website.

CDTA

CDTA is continuously making service changes to adapt to ridership changes, with the latest update going into effect on January 31st. The second wave of the pandemic has reduced ridership again, which is now at almost 30,000 rides per weekday.

NYSDOT

Bob Rice shared that the Albany Skyway was noted in the Governor's State of the State address. The project will be let in two weeks. NYSDOT and FHWA held their first workshop on the 378 bridge replacement study. It is expected that there will be federal amendments to the environmental processes, as the One Federal Decision Executive Order was rescinded. A round of TAP/CMAQ funding is expected this year. Additional CHIPS funding may be restored.

New York State Thruway Authority

Tim Wainwright noted that the Thruway has been focusing on snow and ice operations.

Albany County Airport Authority

Steve Iachetta said that traffic has been fairly flat. Cargo is up 20% over the prior year. The capital program is ongoing. Initial meetings for a new 20-year Master Plan will be held next week, with good attendance expected. The FAA forecasts that air traffic will be back to pre-pandemic levels by 2025.

Albany Port District Commission

Tony Vasil reported that a number of projects were cancelled or put on hold, though there was some new business in forest products. Equinor, based in Norway, will establish an off-shore wind

tower assembly facility on the new acreage purchased by the Port in the Town of Bethlehem. The Port will construct an additional barge dock to accommodate the large weight of the towers. The Towers will be shipped down the Hudson River for eventual use off of Long Island.

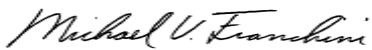
UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

Steve Iachetta summarized upcoming meetings as noted on the agenda. Mike advised that the meeting on February 11th is actually the Regional Operations and Safety Advisory Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Mike Valentine motioned to adjourn, Steve Iachetta seconded, and the members approved the motion at 11:42 AM. The next Planning Committee meeting will be on April 7, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael V. Franchini".

Michael V. Franchini
Secretary